

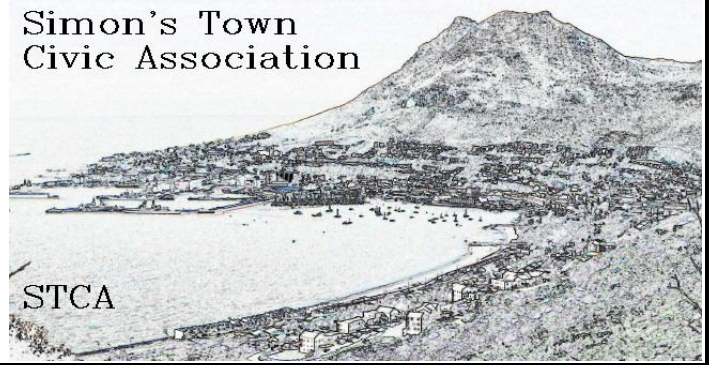
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Serving Simon's Town and Glencairn

STCA NEWSLETTER

April 2012

Simon's Town
Civic Association



New Secretary

After serving as STCA Secretary for many years, Yvonne Mawhinney is handing over to Kim Da Ribeira who has agreed to become our new Secretary. We welcome Kim and are delighted that Yvonne will continue maintaining the Membership Database and remain on the STCA Exco to keep us up to date on the activities at the Museum and Simon's Town School.

Art for All on the Square – Sunday 13 May, 10h00 – 15h00 weather permitting

Look out for the posters and information sheets about this fun event. Simon's Town is inviting all who enjoy art to participate. Amateur and professional artists - come and paint on the Square or display your works, bring the children to the Young Artists' Table, browse the talent on display and vote for your favourite artist, enjoy the vibe. There is no entry fee, anyone can participate by just bringing a table/easel and chair – first come, first served. The event is very relaxed and should be fun for all to come and enjoy. If it rains it will be postponed until the following Sunday. For more information tel Lesley on 021 786 2308.

Recycling

We were delighted to be informed by Evan Saayman of False Bay Recycling (our previous recycling contractor) that he has been asked to take over the current recycling contract because of all the complaints that have been received about the City's new tender holder. Evan writes: *"I can confirm that final negotiations were completed today, and that the domestic recycling generated in the Deep South, WILL remain amongst us, and that job opportunities for some of my previous employees were created. Though very insignificant, this is our contribution to alleviating the ever increasing unemployment nightmare. The new sub-contract will be implemented 01 May 2012. I was approached by the present sub-contractor and literally begged to take over the recycling element of the tender. Once again, we the staff at False Bay Recycling wishes to thank ALL for making this a reality. We further pledge to serve our community with pride."*

Baboon Issues

Lorraine Holloway and her team continue to liaise with the Welcome Glen / Da Gama Park communities and the authorities to try to improve the desperate situation that residents face with the baboon troops in their area being so habituated to humans and their food. A successful Glencairn Valley Residents Public Meeting was held in March chaired by the Ward Councillor. The options available to deal with existing baboon problems were presented, including fencing off residential areas – something that would take some time to implement. Meanwhile frustrations are growing, and although some residents do all they can to make their properties unattractive to baboons, others still do not manage their waste. The authorities are undertaking a major effort to remove alien tree sleeping sites and to drive the baboons away from their sleeping site on the Navy flats in Da Gama Park.

GEESE News

At GEESE's AGM on 25th March, the issue of allowing fishing in the Vlei was discussed. The main concerns centred on the consequences of irresponsible fishermen on the bird life of the Vlei. It was agreed to hold a meeting with the fishermen in the first instance, rather than attempting to ban fishing all together. GEESE is also hoping to produce a Basic Guide to the Glencairn wetlands and are looking for a volunteer who might be able to assist with developing such a guide into an easily updatable cell-phone compatible version.

Simon's Town Trees

Motivated by concern with the current alien clearing activity Roy Burnie has located the Simon's Town Tree list that was compiled some years ago. He and volunteers are looking at identifying and marking important trees and are exploring every way possible to ensure that unnecessary thoughtless tree removal does not take place, whether the tree is an 'alien' or not. Volunteers to assist Roy should contact him on 021 786 1806.

Events Planning Meeting

It is time to start planning for the Simon's Town Spring Festivities over Heritage Weekend in September. There will be a brainstorming meeting for all who wish to get involved in making the Festivities even better than last year – on Tuesday, 8 May at 17h30 in the False Bay Yacht Club meeting room (upstairs). If you are interested in getting involved, please make every effort to come to this meeting. Once again, the Festivities will be an opportunity for different organisations/groups/individuals to come up with ideas and activities which they would organise and run, but for which they would benefit from the joint Festivities publicity.

Property and Development

Cllr Liell-Cock has been lobbying extensively with the City's Spatial Planning, Environment and Land Use Management (SPELUM) Committee to explain the community's concerns about the proposed density in the Marine Oil development. He has succeeded in getting SPELUM not to approve the development unless the density of dwellings is almost halved to a density required in the Simon's Town Structure Plan. No doubt this decision will be appealed by the developers.

After studying the Basic Assessment Report on the proposed subdivision of portions of Rocklands Farm to allow for the development of 68 houses, the STCA Property team have submitted a response objecting to the proposed rezoning and development. Amongst other concerns the objection points out that the property is beyond the urban edge and in the buffer zone of the Table Mountain World Heritage site. The proposed development would result in the loss of valuable fynbos and heritage sites, and would further stress exiting infrastructure.

The City of Cape Town's request for the rezoning, subdivision, departures and consent for the National Housing Development project at Dido Valley was supported providing that the buildings are subject to National building regulations to prevent it becoming a slum. The development will comprise 600 low income 40 sq m houses on plots of 80sq m.

Dinghy Regatta

The False Bay Yacht Club, Defence Yacht Club and Isivunguvungu are hosting a dinghy regatta in False Bay on 27-29 April 2012. This event, one of the largest of its kind, usually attracts 90-120 entries and will bring around 300 people (including the sailors' families) to the Town over the 3 days. The activities will be based in the dockyard during the day and at the FBYC in the evenings.

Museum Talk

Martyn Trainor will give a talk on the "Governor's Cup Yacht Race to St Helena" on 30 May 2012. R20 per person includes a glass of wine or fruit juice. Queries to Yvonne at 021 786 4404 or Audrey at 021 786 1805.

Accommodation Wanted

The STADCO Jubilee Square Manager is looking for reasonably-priced, simple accommodation in our area comprising a bedroom, kitchen/lounge and toilet/shower. If you have a garden flatlet or cottage available for rent, please phone 021 786 4737.

Join the Pressure for a Decent Cinema

We are encouraging all Far South residents to let SterKinekor know that we would like to have "*at least one Nouveau-type movie on a week*" at the new Blue Route cinemas. We feel that their closing of the cinemas at Longbeach was because they completely misread their potential audience. They were not showing us what we wanted to see. Please join the pressure and email them at info@sterkinekor.com.

Just Nuisance Parade

The celebrations around Just Nuisance's Birthday were enjoyed by hundreds of people, from grannies to grandchildren – and of course by the dogs who were all excellently behaved! With articles in both local papers, the event gave Simon's Town excellent publicity as a place where fun things happen. In addition, donations of dog food and some R700 were made to TEARS. Thanks to all who assisted with the organisation of this fun event, and to Glencairn Spar for making the Birthday Cake, to Pescados for icing it, and to the many businesses who sponsored prizes.

Saving Water

"The City's Water and Sanitation Department urgently appeals to residents in the South Peninsula to use water sparingly. Water conservation practices that the City has promoted and publicised are not being adhered to. This will result in demand outstripping the available water supply. It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain reservoir levels in the area at optimal levels because of the unnatural draw on the supply and this could have unfortunate consequences for residents near the end of the water reticulation system. (Comment from the STCA: That's us!!).

The Water and Sanitation Department, facing the possibility of empty reservoirs, recommends the following water saving measures:

1. *Do not water gardens between 10am and 4pm*
2. *Do not water gardens every day or excessively*
3. *Cover swimming pools when they are not in use*
4. *Do not wash cars using hoses without trigger nozzles*
5. *Do not hose down driveways, use a broom*
6. *Re-use bath and sink water to water plants and lawns*
7. *Mulching flower beds keeps down the weeds and holds moisture in the soil for longer*
8. *Rinse glasses, cutlery and vegetables in a basin of water rather than under running water*
9. *You may re-use the water for pot plants or in the garden*
10. *Ensure washing machines and dishwashers have a full load before running*
11. *Take short showers instead of deep baths*
12. *Plant water-wise plants - they use far less water*

Please call our Water and Sanitation Hotline 0860 10 30 54 to enquire about water saving tips or to report water wastage in your area."

Noise at Navy Barracks

Should any residents be disturbed by unreasonable noise issuing from Navy Barracks, they are encouraged to report it to the Navy at 021 787 3818, this line is manned 24/7.

Report Graffiti

All graffiti should be reported direct to Michelle De Wet at 072 152 5963 or email michelle.dewet@capetown.gov.za

Vagrants

The vexing issue of the anti-social behaviour of vagrants continues to plague the STCA and the Business Association. A recent inspection of the lanes behind the Main Road shops in Simon's Town revealed disgusting littering and faeces. And these are historic areas we are trying to encourage tourists to explore! Empty liquor bottles bear testimony to the complaints from residents of noise, public drinking and defecation. Pressure is being exerted on the City's People's Displacement Unit to take some action.

Security contacts

Simon's Town SAPS 24 hrs phone number is **021 786 8646 or 786 8647**. Always alert SAPS of any suspicious behaviour and (attempted) break-ins. They can only act on the right information. The **Community Police Forum (CPF) Public meeting** is held once every two months. The next

one will be at the end of April, possibly the 23rd April and will be held at the Simon's Town Library Hall. All are encouraged to attend.

Reporting issues to the City

Issues needing the City's attention can be reported directly to the Sub-council Manager, either by email to desiree.mentor@capetown.gov.za, fax 021- 782 1185, or by dropping off a note at the Sub-council offices at Fish Hoek. Please keep Desiree Mentor informed of progress / or lack of progress so that she can follow-up if necessary. Each report should contain the **Date** (of submitting the request); the **Category** (Roads, Waste Management, Parks, Water supply, Graffiti, etc); a **Detailed description of the problem** (this must include the exact location – eg not just a street name, but opposite which house number, or which end of a beach), and provide the **name and contact details** of the person submitting the request.

Emergency numbers:

- Simon's Town Police: **021 786-8646 or 8647**
- Fish Hoek Emergency Control Centre: **021 782 0333, 782-0444**
- Metro Police (Law Enforcement): **021 784 2033**
- Fire and Emergency: **107** from Telkom phones, **112** from cell phones
- Roads, potholes and stormwater: **0860 103 054 (24 Hours)**
- Water/Sewage Emergencies: **0860 103 054 (24 hours)**
- To report people tossing burning cigarette butts into vegetation: **021 424 7715**
- Cable theft, toll free 24/7 hotline: 0800 222 771.
- To report people feeding baboons: **021 957-5937 or 959-5900**
- Baboon emergencies: **071 588-6540** (all hours).
- Metrorail complaints: **0800 65 64 63**
- Navy Ops room (for all issues concerning the Navy) 021 787 3818 (all hours).

Queries and complaints can also be logged at the City's Call Centre: Tel: 0860103089 or SMS 31363 (no more than 160 characters) or email: ContactUS@capetown.gov.za

Subscriptions

STCA membership fees (**R80 per annum per household**) became due on 1 January 2012. Please pay membership fees (cash) at the STADCO parking office on Jubilee Square during office hours, or by internet banking. (We are trying to avoid use of cheques if at all possible - the bank is now charging exorbitantly for cheques.)

For internet banking : BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Bank: Standard Bank,

Branch code: 036009

Account name: Simons Town Civic Association

Branch: Fish Hoek

Account number: 073815209

(Market link savings account)

Please say "Subs, your name, tel. number" as the sender. Please also notify the STCA that you have paid.

New members must give the STCA contact details so as to be put onto the Newsletter mailing list.

Please encourage neighbours and friends to join the STCA

STCA Web Page: <http://southerncrossroads.info/ggvnw/>